

# BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER FOR YOU



## Northern Cheyenne Tribe Federal Benefits Workshop III

### Information On

- Social Security Retirement, Survivor, Disability, Medicare
- Supplemental Security Income/Homeless Outreach Project/Appeals
  - Social Security Employment Support Services
  - Tribal and Montana Vocational Rehabilitation Services
    - Medicaid/Healthy Montana Kids (HMK) Plan
    - Veterans' Administration Benefits
    - Benefits QuickLINK/Medicare Advocacy
- Northern Cheyenne Tribal Health Services/Indian Health Service

**Lame Deer Catholic Church, Lame Deer, Montana  
October 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009**

### Agenda – Tuesday, October 20th

**10:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.** – Prayer by Tribal Elder. Introduction and Welcome by President Leroy Spang, Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council.

**10:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.** - Social Security Retirement and Survivor Benefit entitlements, Supplements Security Income (SSI) Benefits, Disability Benefits, and Medicare by Peggy Murphy, Lead Public Affairs Specialist, SSA, Great Falls. Special guest, Ms. Jackie Kofoid, SSA District Manager, Billings

**12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M.** – **Lunch Hosted by Northern Cheyenne Senior Center and AARP Montana**

**1:00 P.M. to 2:45 P.M.** – SSI and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) medical determination by Mary O'Hara Geinert, Disability Determination Services (DDS), Helena

**2:45 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.** – Break

**3:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.** - Social Security Employment Support Services by Tiffany Kelker, Community Work Incentive Coordinator, Montana Center on Disabilities @ MSU-Billings, Billings

**Agenda – Wednesday, October 21st**

**9:00 A.M. to 9:15 A.M.** – Prayer and Introductions

**9:15 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.** – Medicare Advocacy with Q & A, Kimme Evermann and Janet Stellmon, Montana State Office on Aging, Helena, Sharon Richetti, State Auditor's Office, Helena

**10:00 A.M. to 11:15 A.M.** - Medicaid Services and Eligibility by Tanya Watson, Director Office of Public Assistance, Hardin; John Hein, I.H.S. Program Officer, Helena; and John Hoffland, Medicaid Outreach, Helena

**11:15 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.** – Healthy Montana Kids (HMK) Plan by Michael Mahoney, HMK Community Relations Manager, Helena

**11:45 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.** - Veterans' Administration Montana Healthcare Services by W. J. "Buck" Richardson, Minority Veterans program, Rocky Mountain Health Network, Denver, CO, and Roger Trumper, Patient Business Office, VA Montana Healthcare System, Fort Harrison

**{ A noon working lunch hosted by Northern Cheyenne Senior Center and Medicaid for the State of Montana }**

**1:00 P.M. to 1:30 P.M.** – Charles Bear Comes Out, Veterans' Coordinator, Northern Cheyenne Tribal Health, Lame Deer

**1:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.** – Chief Dull Knife College Vocational Rehabilitation Program by Bill Wertman, Acting Director, Lame Deer; and Montana State Vocational Rehabilitation Services by Michael Hermanson, Helena.

**2:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.** – Benefits QuickLINK by Al Ward, AARP Community Service Volunteer, AARP Montana, Helena

**3:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.** - Indian Health Service by Debby Bends, Service Unit Director, I.H.S., Lame Deer

**3:30- P.M. to 4:00 P.M.** – Northern Cheyenne Tribal Health Services by David Roundstone, Director, Northern Cheyenne Tribal Health Department, Lame Deer

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**(Booths and tables with brochures and other program information will be available from presenters and other agencies and organizations. Door Prizes! Snacks provided by Area II Agency on Aging.**  
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**Training provided by the Social Security Administration  
Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services  
Montana Center on Disabilities at MSU-Billings  
AARP Montana  
Indian Health Service  
Northern Cheyenne Tribal Health Department  
Veterans Administration Montana Healthcare Services  
Chief Dull Knife College Vocational Rehabilitation Program**



**Medicare 101**  
(Your Prescription for Medicare)

Thursday, October 22nd  
9:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.  
Lame Deer Catholic Church  
Lame Deer

Do you want to learn the basics of Medicare and how it can work with Indian Health Service? Would you like to see if you qualify for benefits that can help you manage scarce resources?

Who should attend? Elders, tribal program staff, those who are concerned about parents/relatives, people who are getting close to 65 years old.

**Agenda - Thursday, October 22nd**

**9:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.** - Introduction to Medicare by Kimme Evermann, Janet Stellmon, Sharon Richetti, & Al Ward

**10:30 A.M. – 10:40 A.M.** -Break

**10:40 to 11:20 A.M.** - Questions by Kimme Evermann, Janet Stellmon, Sharon Richetti, JoHanna Spang, and Karen Erdie

**11:20 A.M. – 11:40 A.M. – Working Lunch hosted by Northern Cheyenne Senior Center and Montana State Office on Aging**

**11:40 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.** - Benefits QuickLINK by Team Medicare (with screening of people who are interested in finding out if they are eligible for benefits)

## Topics for Discussion

**Social Security Benefits** – Instructor from the Great Falls Social Security Administration Office will provide information about Social Security retirement and survivor's benefits. Topics will include and are not limited to eligibility requirements, how benefits are calculated, and how work affects entitlement to benefits. Medicare eligibility, enrollments periods and coverage will also be presented.

**Supplemental Security Income** – Instructor from the Great Falls Social Security Administration Office will provide information about the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. Topics will include and are not limited to eligibility requirements, calculation of payments and income and resource (assets) limits.

**Social Security Disability Insurance** – Instructors from SSA and DDS will provide information regarding Social Security benefits payable to disabled workers, disabled widow(er)s, and disabled adult children. Topics will include and are not limited to eligibility requirements, benefit calculations, continuing disability reviews, Homeless Outreach Projects, and how the Montana Disability Determination Services (DDS) evaluates medical and other evidence of disability for adults and children.

**Medicare Advocacy with Q & A** – Instructor from DPHHS will provide information on the Montana State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). The Montana SHIP is a local network of trained counselors who educate/advocate for Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and community partners to meet the growing need of empowering beneficiaries to navigate this health insurance program. Q & A with the State Auditor's Office will also be available.

**Benefits QuickLINK** – Instructor from AARP Montana will provide information regarding National Council on Aging website which offers several tools to assist staff, volunteers, and family members to identify benefits for which a person may be eligible. The website also has state specific applications for those benefits that can be downloaded. Targeted benefits are primarily for persons who are either elderly, blind, or disabled.

**Medicaid and Healthy Montana Kids (MHK) Plan** – Instructors from the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Service will provide information on eligibility and covered services for Medicaid and HMK. There are several Medicaid programs for families, children, and pregnant women. The criteria for state Medicaid assistance for qualified Medicare beneficiaries will also be covered. On October 1, 2009, Children's Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) will merge to become a single health coverage program called the Healthy Montana Kids (HMK) Plan. HMK provides free or very low-cost health coverage for uninsured children up to age 19. Healthy Montana Kids and Tribal Health Services can work together to provide the best coverage for Montana children.

**Employment Works: Montana's Transition from BPAO to WIPA** project is part of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act that was established in 1999. The goal of the project is to provide direct service to Social Security Disability beneficiaries in understanding and utilizing employment supports and work incentives and achieving their vocational goals.

**Department of Veterans Affairs** – Instructors from Veterans Administration, Rocky Mountain Health Network, will provide information regarding services and eligibility requirements for Veterans Administration benefits and entitlements.

**Northern Cheyenne Tribal Health Service** – Instructors will provide information about the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Health Service Programs and Tribal Veterans' Services.

**Indian Health Service** – Instructor will provide information about I.H.S. services including contracted health services and how people qualify.

**Tribal and Montana Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services** – Instructors will provide information regarding the State of Montana Vocational Rehabilitation Services and Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Services along with eligibility requirements.

# WELCOME



**{CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS AVAILABLE FROM  
CHIEF DULL KNIFE COLLEGE}**

## **Information and Assistance Please Contact:**

JoHanna Spang, Medical Resources Coordinator, Lame Deer, 477-4466;  
Arshanda Knows His Gun, Medical Resources Secretary, 477-4539;  
Tiffany Kelker, MSU-Billings Center on Disabilities, at 1-888-866-3822;  
Kaaren, Rizor, Executive Director of Ashland Community Health Center,  
Ashland, 784-2346; or  
Roger Ala, DDS, Helena, at 1-800-545-3054

*Thank You*

(Front Page Logo Courtesy of the Northern Cheyenne Board of Health)

The presenters wish to thank the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Health Medical Resources Department, Northern Cheyenne Senior Center/Shoulder Blade Complex, Area II Agency on Aging, Ashland Community Health Center, and AARP Montana for their leadership and assistance in organizing and sponsoring the Federal Benefits Workshop.